

# **Hierarchy Problems in String Theory: An Overview of the LARGE Volume Scenario**

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# Papers

**Moduli Stabilisation:** hep-th/0502058 (Balasubramanian, Berglund, JC, Quevedo),  
hep-th/0505076 (JC, Quevedo, Suruliz),  
arXiv:0704.0737 (Berg, Haack, Pajer),  
arXiv:0708.1873 (Cicoli, JC, Quevedo),  
arXiv:0711.3389 (Blumenhagen, Moster, Plauschinn)

**Soft terms:** hep-th/0505076 (JC, Quevedo, Suruliz),  
hep-th/0605141 (JC, Quevedo),  
hep-th/0609180 (JC, Cremades, Quevedo),  
hep-th/0610129 (JC, Abdussalam, Quevedo, Suruliz),  
arXiv:0704.0737 (Berg, Haack, Pajer),  
arXiv:0704.3403 (JC, Kom, Suruliz, Allanach, Quevedo).

**Cosmology:** hep-th/0509012, arXiv:0705.3460 (JC, Quevedo),  
astro-ph/0605371, arXiv:0712.1875 (Simon *et al*), hep-th/0612197 ( Bond *et al*),  
arXiv:0712.1260 (Misra, Shukla)

**Axions and Neutrino Masses:** hep-th/0602233 (JC), hep-ph/0611144 (JC, Cremades)

**Thanks to my collaborators:**

Shehu Abdussalam, Ben Allanach, Vijay Balasubramanian, Per Berglund, Michele Cicoli, Daniel Cremades, Chun-Hay (Steve) Kom, Fernando Quevedo, Kerim Suruliz

# Talk Structure

- Hierarchies in Nature
- String Phenomenology and LARGE Volume Models
- Supersymmetry Breaking
- Axions
- Neutrino Masses
- A New Scale
- Conclusions

# Hierarchies in Nature

Nature likes hierarchies:

- The Planck scale,  $M_P = 2.4 \times 10^{18} \text{GeV}$ .
- The GUT/inflation scale,  $M \sim 10^{16} \text{GeV}$ .
- The axion scale,  $10^9 \text{GeV} \lesssim f_a \lesssim 10^{12} \text{GeV}$
- The weak scale :  $M_W \sim 100 \text{GeV}$
- The QCD scale  $\Lambda_{QCD} \sim 200 \text{MeV}$
- The neutrino mass scale,  $0.05 \text{eV} \lesssim m_\nu \lesssim 0.3 \text{eV}$ .
- The cosmological constant,  $\Lambda \sim (10^{-3} \text{eV})^4$

These demand an explanation!

# Hierarchies in Nature

This talk will argue that

- an intermediate string scale  $m_s \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$
- stabilised exponentially large extra dimensions ( $\mathcal{V} \sim 10^{15} l_s^6$ ).

explains the axionic, weak and neutrino hierarchies.

Different hierarchies will come as different powers of the (large) volume.

# Moduli Stabilisation

- String theory lives in ten dimensions.
- Compactify on a Calabi-Yau manifold to give a four-dimensional theory.
- The geometry determines the four-dimensional particle spectrum.
- The spectrum always includes uncharged scalar particles - **moduli** - describing the size and shape of the extra dimensions.

# Moduli Stabilisation

- Moduli are naively massless scalars which couple gravitationally.
- These generate fifth forces and so must be given masses.
- Generating potentials for moduli is the field of **moduli stabilisation**.
- This talk is on the **large-volume models** which represent a particular moduli stabilisation scenario.



# Moduli Stabilisation: Fluxes

- Fluxes carry an energy density which generates a potential for the cycle moduli.
- In IIB compactifications, 3-form fluxes generate a superpotential

$$K = -2 \ln(\mathcal{V}) - \ln \left( i \int \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega} \right) - \ln(S + \bar{S})$$

$$W = \int (F_3 + iSH_3) \wedge \Omega \equiv \int G_3 \wedge \Omega.$$

- This stabilises the dilaton and complex structure moduli.

$$D_S W = D_U W = 0.$$

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega = W_0.$$

# Moduli Stabilisation: Fluxes

$$\hat{K} = -2 \ln (\mathcal{V}(T_i + \bar{T}_i)) ,$$

$$W = W_0 .$$

$$V = e^{\hat{K}} \left( \sum_T \hat{K}^{i\bar{j}} D_i W D_{\bar{j}} \bar{W} - 3|W|^2 \right)$$
$$= 0$$

No-scale model :

- vanishing vacuum energy
- broken susy
- $T$  unstabilised

No-scale is broken perturbatively and non-pertubatively.

# Moduli Stabilisation: KKLT

$$\hat{K} = -2 \ln(\mathcal{V}),$$

$$W = W_0 + \sum_i A_i e^{-a_i T_i}.$$

- Non-perturbative ADS superpotential.
- The  $T$ -moduli are stabilised by solving  $D_T W = 0$ .
- This gives a susy AdS vacuum which is uplifted by anti-branes/magnetic fluxes/IASD 3-form fluxes/F-terms/something else.
- Susy breaking is sourced by the uplift.

# Moduli Stabilisation: KKLT

KKLT stabilisation has three phenomenological problems:

1. No susy hierarchy: fluxes prefer  $W_0 \sim 1$  and  $m_{3/2} \gg 1\text{TeV}$ .
2. Susy breaking not well controlled - depends entirely on uplifting.
3.  $\alpha'$  expansion not well controlled - volume is small and there are large flux backreaction effects.

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

$$\hat{K} = -2 \ln \left( \mathcal{V} + \frac{\xi}{2g_s^{3/2}} \right), \quad \left( \xi = \frac{\chi(\mathcal{M})\zeta(3)}{2(2\pi)^3 g_s^{3/2}} \right)$$
$$W = W_0 + \sum_i A_i e^{-a_i T_i}.$$

- Include perturbative as well as non-perturbative corrections to the scalar potential.
- Add the leading  $\alpha'$  corrections to the Kähler potential (**Becker-Becker-Haack-Louis**).
- These descend from the  $\mathcal{R}^4$  term in 10 dimensions.
- This leads to dramatic changes in the large-volume vacuum structure.

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

The simplest model  $\mathbb{P}^4_{[1,1,1,6,9]}$  has two Kähler moduli.

$$\mathcal{V} = \left( \frac{T_b + \bar{T}_b}{2} \right)^{3/2} - \left( \frac{T_s + \bar{T}_s}{2} \right)^{3/2} \equiv \left( \tau_b^{3/2} - \tau_s^{3/2} \right).$$

If we compute the scalar potential, we get for  $\mathcal{V} \gg 1$ ,

$$V = \frac{\sqrt{\tau_s} a_s^2 |A_s|^2 e^{-2a_s \tau_s}}{\mathcal{V}} - \frac{a_s |A_s W_0| \tau_s e^{-a_s \tau_s}}{\mathcal{V}^2} + \frac{\xi |W_0|^2}{g_s^{3/2} \mathcal{V}^3}.$$

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

$$V = \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\tau_s} a_s^2 |A_s|^2 e^{-2a_s \tau_s}}{\mathcal{V}} - \frac{a_s |A_s W_0| \tau_s e^{-a_s \tau_s}}{\mathcal{V}^2}}_{\text{Integrate out } \tau_s} + \frac{\xi |W_0|^2}{g_s^{3/2} \mathcal{V}^3}.$$

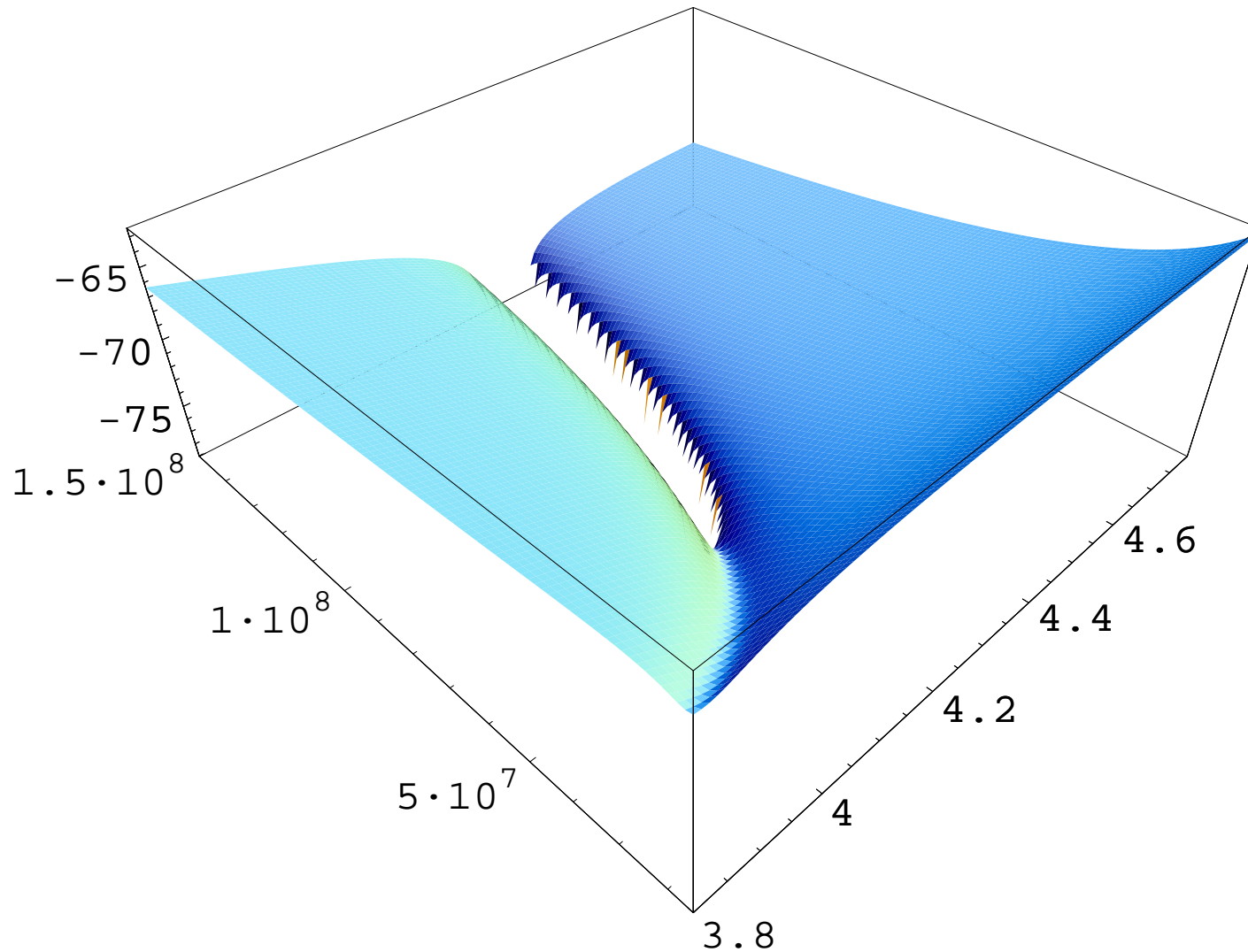
$$V = -\frac{|W_0|^2 (\ln \mathcal{V})^{3/2}}{\mathcal{V}^3} + \frac{\xi |W_0|^2}{g_s^{3/2} \mathcal{V}^3}.$$

A minimum exists at

$$\mathcal{V} \sim |W_0| e^{a_s \tau_s}, \quad \tau_s \sim \frac{\xi^{2/3}}{g_s}.$$

This minimum is **non-supersymmetric AdS** and at **exponentially large volume**.

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume





# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

Higher  $\alpha'$  corrections are suppressed by more powers of volume.

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{g} \mathcal{G}_3^2 \mathcal{R}^3 & : \int d^{10}x \sqrt{g} \mathcal{R}^4 \\ \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} \left( \int d^6x \sqrt{g_6} \mathcal{G}_3^2 \mathcal{R}^3 \right) & : \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} \left( \int d^6x \sqrt{g_6} \mathcal{R}^4 \right) \\ \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} (\mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}^{-1} \times \mathcal{V}^{-1}) & : \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} (\mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}^{-4/3}) \\ \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} (\mathcal{V}^{-1}) & : \int d^4x \sqrt{g_4} (\mathcal{V}^{-1/3}) \end{aligned}$$

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

Loop corrections are suppressed by more powers of volume: there exists an 'extended no scale structure'

$$W = W_0,$$

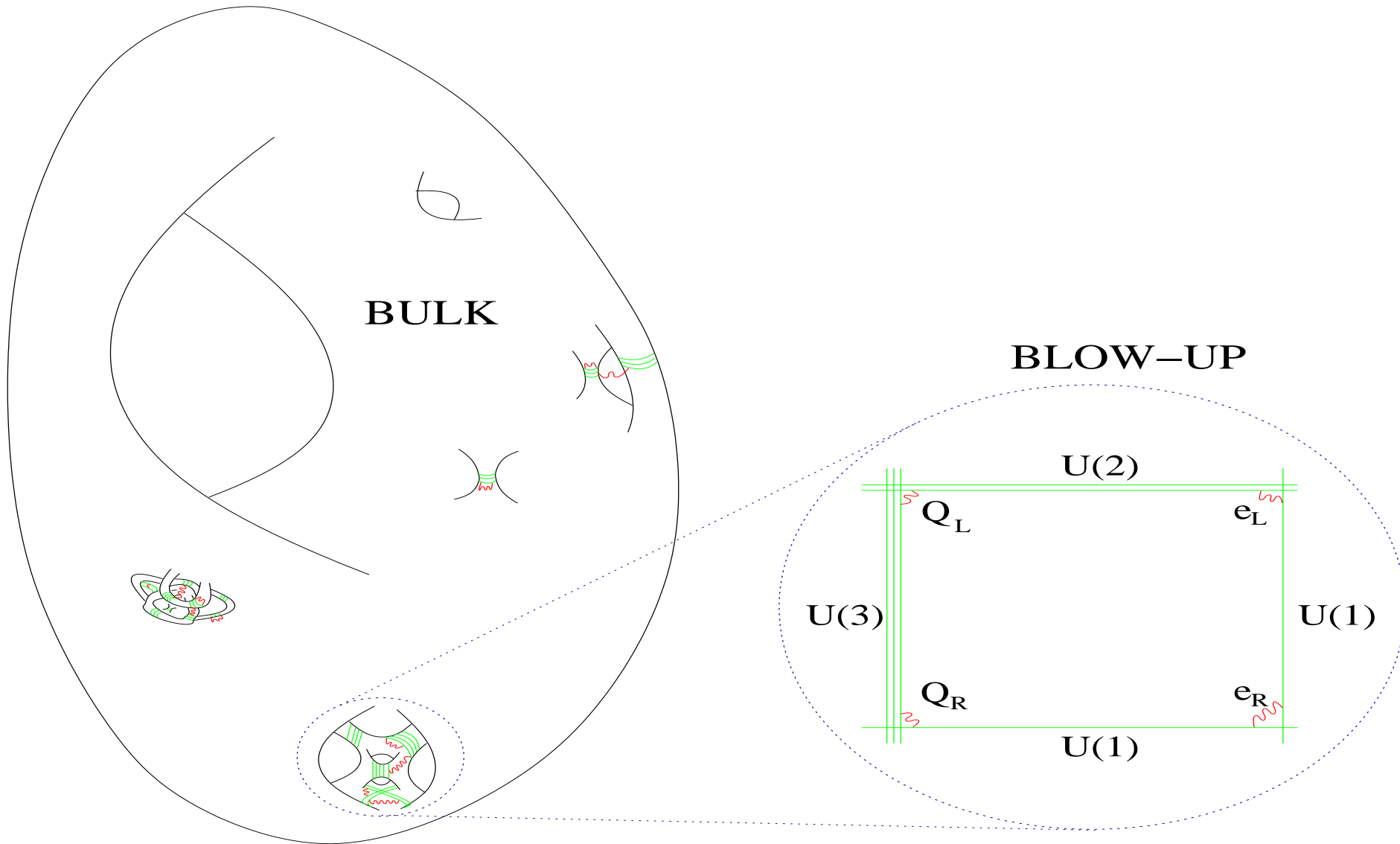
$$K_{full} = K_{tree} + K_{loop} + K_{\alpha'}$$

$$= -3 \ln(T + \bar{T}) + \underbrace{\frac{c_1}{(T + \bar{T})(S + \bar{S})}}_{loop} + \underbrace{\frac{c_2(S + \bar{S})^{3/2}}{(T + \bar{T})^{3/2}}}_{\alpha'}.$$

$$V_{full} = V_{tree} + V_{loop} + V_{\alpha'}$$

$$= \underbrace{0}_{tree} + \underbrace{\frac{c_2(S + \bar{S})^{3/2}}{(T + \bar{T})^{3/2}}}_{\alpha'} + \underbrace{\frac{c_1}{(S + \bar{S})(T + \bar{T})^2}}_{loop}$$

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume



# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

- The stabilised volume is exponentially large.
- The large volume lowers the string scale and gravitino mass through

$$m_s = \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\mathcal{V}}}, \quad m_{3/2} = \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}}.$$

- To solve the gauge hierarchy problem, need  $\mathcal{V} \sim 10^{15}$ .
- D7-branes wrapped on small cycle carry the Standard Model: need  $T_s \sim 20(2\pi\sqrt{\alpha'})^4$ .
- The vacuum is pseudo no-scale and breaks susy...

# Moduli Stabilisation: Large-Volume

The mass scales present are:

Planck scale:

$$M_P = 2.4 \times 10^{18} \text{ GeV.}$$

String scale:

$$M_S \sim \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\mathcal{V}}} \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV.}$$

KK scale

$$M_{KK} \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} \sim 10^9 \text{ GeV.}$$

Gravitino mass

$$m_{3/2} \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}} \sim 30 \text{ TeV.}$$

Small modulus

$$m_{\tau_s} \sim m_{3/2} \ln \left( \frac{M_P}{m_{3/2}} \right) \sim 1000 \text{ TeV.}$$

Complex structure moduli

$$m_U \sim m_{3/2} \sim 30 \text{ TeV.}$$

Soft terms

$$m_{susy} \sim \frac{m_{3/2}}{\ln(M_P/m_{3/2})} \sim 1 \text{ TeV.}$$

Volume modulus

$$m_{\tau_b} \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{3/2}} \sim 1 \text{ MeV.}$$

# SUSY Breaking and Soft Terms

Supersymmetry will (hopefully) be discovered at the LHC.

It is parametrised by

- Soft scalar masses,  $m_i^2 \phi_i^2$
- Gaugino masses,  $M_a \lambda^a \lambda^a$ ,
- Trilinear scalar A-terms,  $A_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \phi^\alpha \phi^\beta \phi^\gamma$
- B-terms,  $BH_1 H_2$ .

# SUSY Breaking and Soft Terms

- To compute soft terms, we expand  $K$  and  $W$  in powers of matter fields  $C^\alpha$ ,

$$W = \hat{W}(\Phi) + \mu(\Phi)H_1H_2 + \frac{1}{6}Y_{\alpha\beta\gamma}(\Phi)C^\alpha C^\beta C^\gamma + \dots,$$

$$K = \hat{K}(\Phi, \bar{\Phi}) + \tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}(\Phi, \bar{\Phi})C^\alpha C^{\bar{\beta}} + [ZH_1H_2 + h.c.] + \dots,$$

$$f_a = f_a(\Phi).$$

# SUSY Breaking and Soft Terms

- Soft scalar masses  $m_{ij}^2$  and trilinears  $A_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  are given by

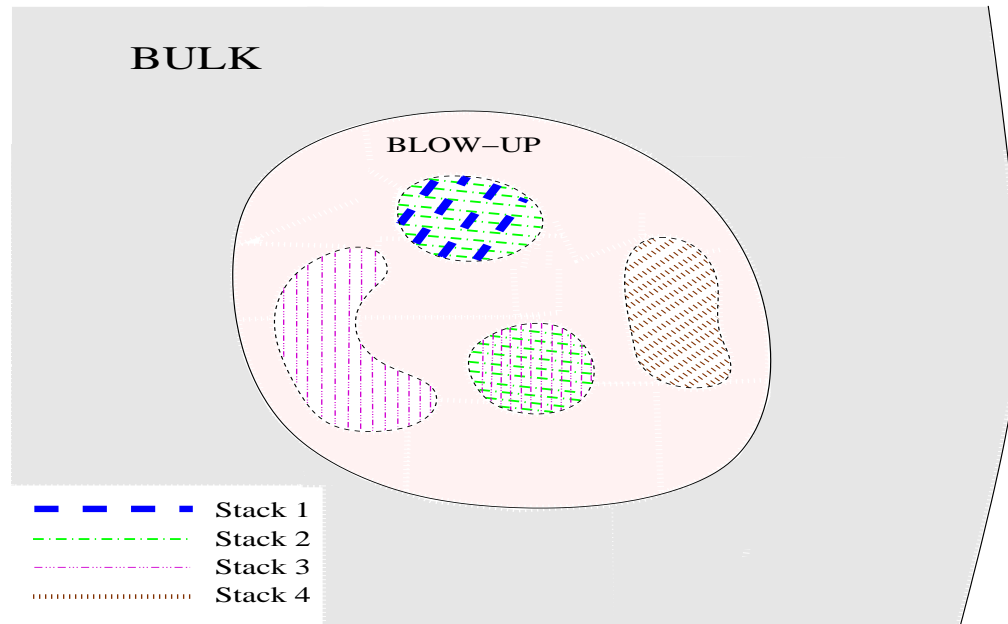
$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{m}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}^2 &= (m_{3/2}^2 + V_0)\tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \\ &\quad - \bar{F}^{\bar{m}} F^n \left( \partial_{\bar{m}} \partial_n \tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} - (\partial_{\bar{m}} \tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\gamma}}) \tilde{K}^{\bar{\gamma}\delta} (\partial_n \tilde{K}_{\delta\bar{\beta}}) \right) \\ A'_{\alpha\beta\gamma} &= e^{\hat{K}/2} F^m \left[ \hat{K}_m Y_{\alpha\beta\gamma} + \partial_m Y_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left( (\partial_m \tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\rho}}) \tilde{K}^{\bar{\rho}\delta} Y_{\delta\beta\gamma} + (\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) + (\alpha \leftrightarrow \gamma) \right) \right].\end{aligned}$$

- To compute soft terms, we need to know  $\tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}(\Phi)$ .



# The brane geometry

- We assume the Standard Model comes from a stack of (magnetised) branes all wrapping a blowup cycle.
- Chiral fermions stretch between differently magnetised branes.



# SUSY Breaking and Soft Terms

- In the dilute flux approximation we find

$$\tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} = \frac{\tau_s^{1/3}}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} k_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}(U, \bar{U})$$

Soft terms are

$$\begin{aligned} M_i &= \frac{F^s}{2\tau_s} \equiv M, \\ m_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} &= \frac{M}{\sqrt{3}} \tilde{K}_{\alpha\bar{\beta}}, \\ A_{\alpha\beta\gamma} &= -M \hat{Y}_{\alpha\beta\gamma}, \\ B &= -\frac{4M}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

# Mirror Mediation

- These soft terms are flavour-universal.

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- An invalid argument:  
In gravity mediation flavour and susy breaking are both Planck-scale physics.  
Therefore susy breaking is sensitive to flavour  
Therefore squark masses are non-universal.

# Mirror Mediation

- These soft terms are flavour-universal.
- An invalid argument:  
In gravity mediation flavour and susy breaking are both Planck-scale physics.  
Therefore susy breaking is sensitive to flavour  
Therefore squark masses are non-universal.
- In string theory, we have Kähler ( $T$ ) and complex structure ( $U$ ) moduli. These are **decoupled** at leading order.

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln(\mathcal{V}(T)) - \ln \left( i \int \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega}(U) \right) - \ln(S + \bar{S}).$$

- The kinetic terms for  $T$  and  $U$  fields do not mix.

# Mirror Mediation

- Due to the shift symmetry  $T \rightarrow T + i\epsilon$ , the  $T$  moduli make no perturbative appearance in the superpotential.
- It is the  $U$  moduli that source flavour...

$$W = \dots + \frac{1}{6} Y_{\alpha\beta\gamma}(U) C^\alpha C^\beta C^\gamma + \dots$$

- ...and the  $T$  moduli that break supersymmetry,

$$D_T W \neq 0, F^T \neq 0, \quad D_U W = 0, F^U = 0.$$

- At leading order, susy breaking (Kähler moduli) and flavour (complex structure moduli) decouple.

# Soft Terms: Spectra

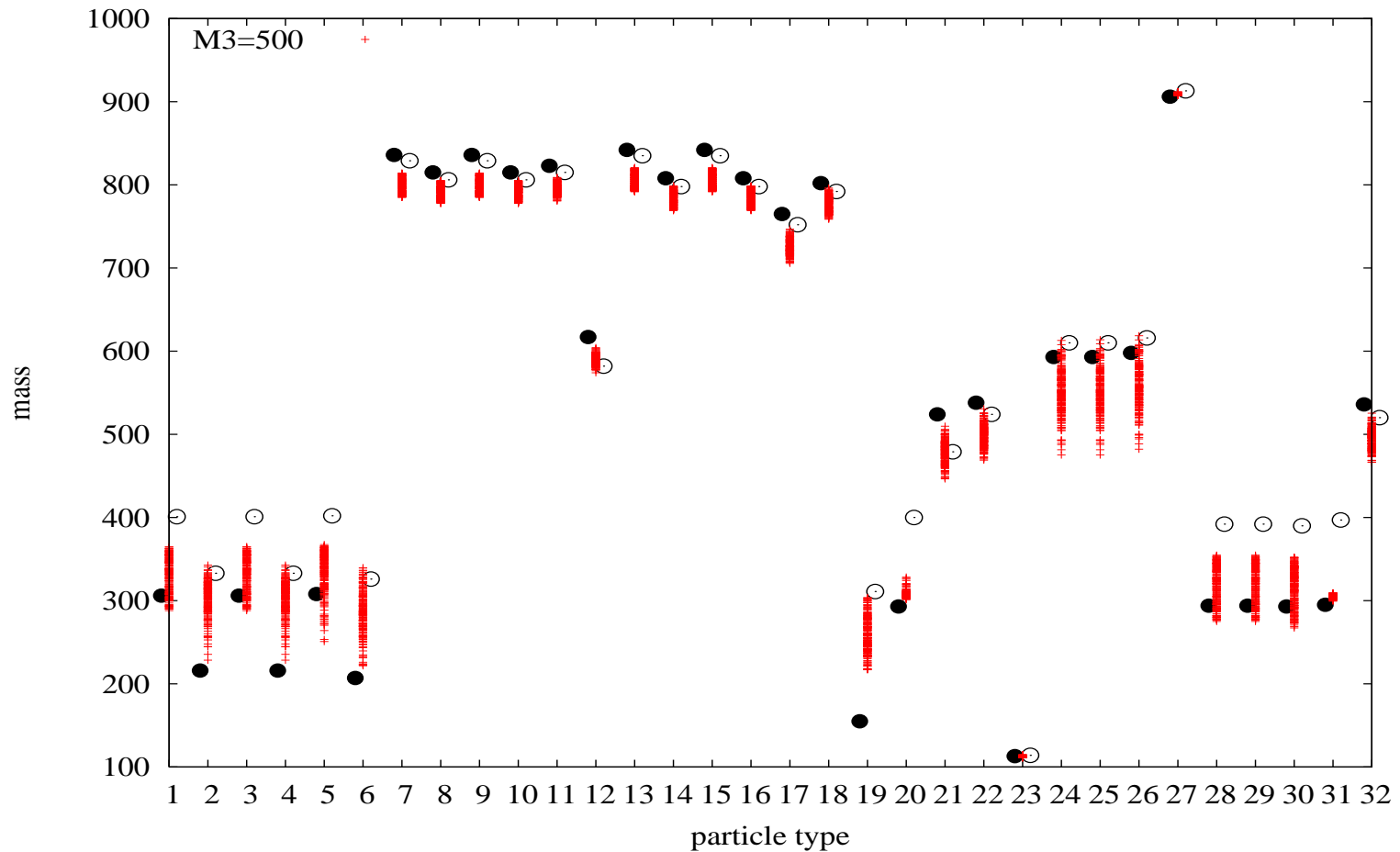
- Magnetic fluxes are needed for chirality.
- These alter the gauge kinetic functions

$$f_a = \frac{T}{4\pi} \rightarrow f_a = \frac{T}{4\pi} + h_a(F)S.$$

- Fluxes perturb the soft terms.
- We generate many such spectra, with high-scale soft terms allowed to fluctuate by  $\pm 20\%$ .

# Soft Terms: Spectra

- We run the soft terms to low energy using SoftSUSY:





# Soft Terms: Spectra

- The spectrum is more compressed compared to mSUGRA: the squarks are lighter and sleptons heavier.
- This arises because the RG running starts at the intermediate rather than GUT scale.
- The gaugino mass ratios are

$$M_1 : M_2 : M_3 = 1.5 \rightarrow 2 : 2 : 6.$$

# Axions

- Axions are a well-motivated solution to the strong CP problem.
- The QCD Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \frac{1}{g^2} \int d^4x F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a,\mu\nu} + \theta \int F^a \wedge F^a.$$

- The strong CP problem:  
Naively  $\theta \in (-\pi, \pi)$  - experimentally  $|\theta| \lesssim 10^{-10}$ .
- The axionic (Peccei-Quinn) solution is to promote  $\theta$  to a dynamical field,  $\theta(x)$ .

# Axions

- The canonical Lagrangian for  $\theta$  is

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \theta \partial^\mu \theta + \int \frac{\theta}{f_a} F^a \wedge F^a.$$

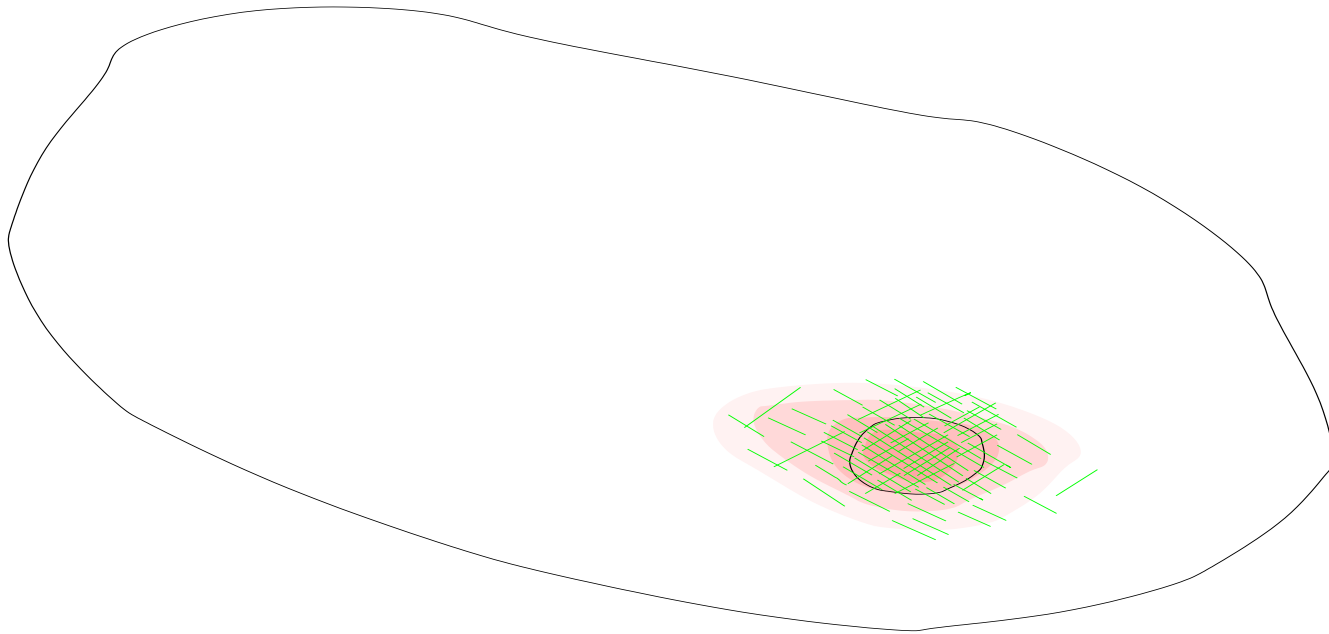
$f_a$  is the axionic decay constant.

- Constraints on supernova cooling and direct searches imply  $f_a \gtrsim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$ .
- Avoiding the overproduction of axion dark matter prefers  $f_a \lesssim 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$ .
- There exists an axion ‘allowed window’,

$$10^9 \text{ GeV} \lesssim f_a \lesssim 10^{12} \text{ GeV}.$$

# Axions

- For D7 branes, the axionic coupling comes from the RR form in the brane Chern-Simons action.
- The axion decay constant  $f_a$  measures the coupling of the axion to matter.



# Axions

- The coupling of the axion to matter is a local coupling and does not see the overall volume.
- This coupling can only see the string scale:

$$f_a \sim m_s \sim \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\mathcal{V}}}.$$

(This is confirmed by a full analysis)

- This generates the axion scale,

$$f_a \sim \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\mathcal{V}}} \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV}.$$

# Neutrino Masses

- Neutrino masses exist:

$$0.05\text{eV} \lesssim m_\nu^H \lesssim 0.3\text{eV}.$$

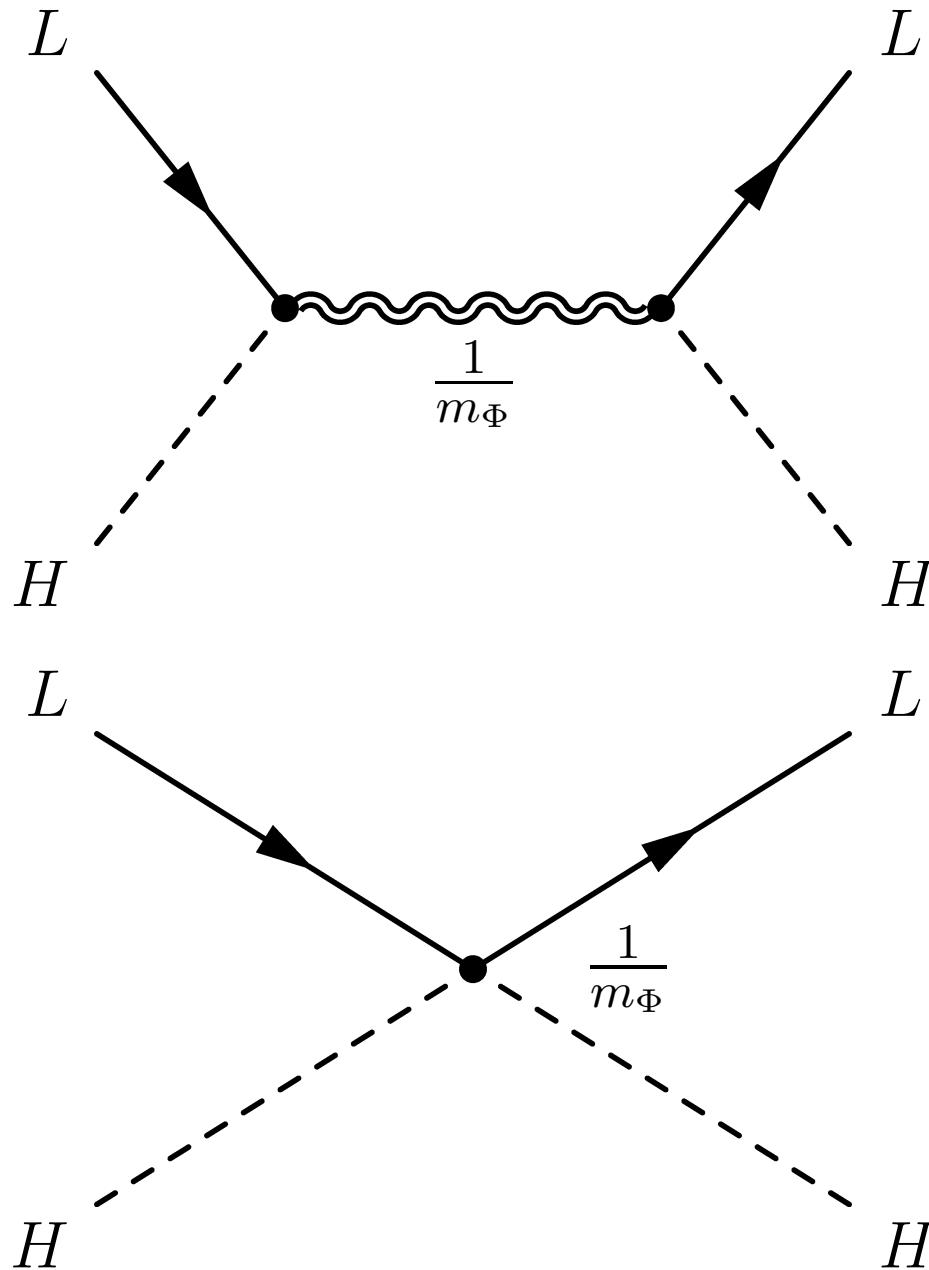
- In the seesaw mechanism, this corresponds to a Majorana mass scale for right-handed neutrinos

$$M_{\nu_R} \sim 3 \times 10^{14}\text{GeV}.$$

- Equivalently, this is the suppression scale  $\Lambda$  of the dimension five MSSM operator

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{m_\nu} &= \frac{1}{\Lambda} H_2 H_2 L L \\ \Rightarrow m_\nu &= 0.1\text{eV} \left( \sin^2 \beta \times \frac{3 \times 10^{14}\text{GeV}}{\Lambda} \right). \end{aligned}$$

# Neutrino Masses



# Neutrino Masses

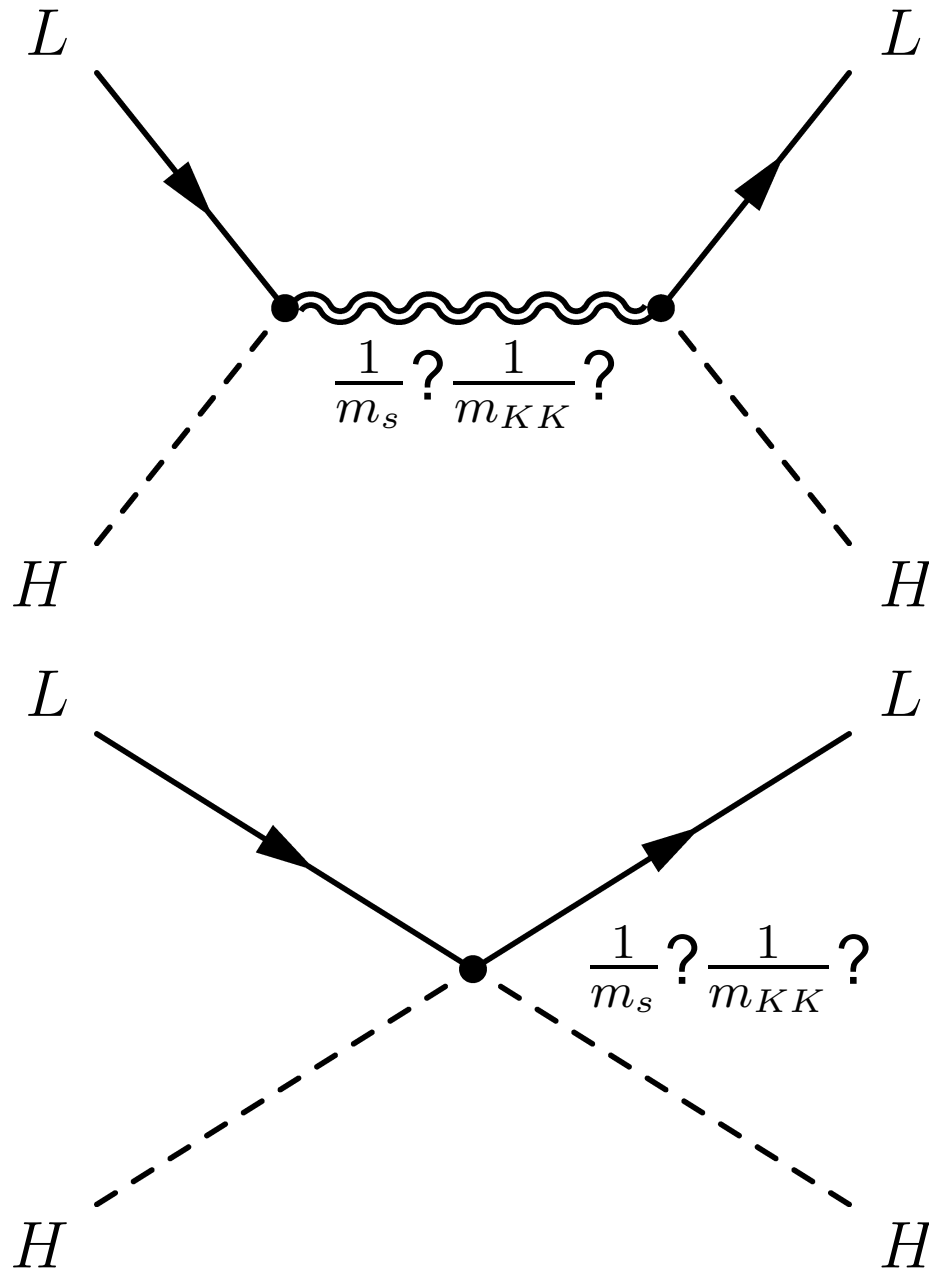
Neutrino masses imply a scale  $\Lambda \sim (\text{a few}) \times 10^{14} \text{GeV}$  which is

- not the Planck scale  $10^{18} \text{GeV}$
- not the GUT scale  $10^{16} \text{GeV}$
- not the intermediate scale  $10^{11} \text{GeV}$
- not the TeV scale  $10^3 \text{GeV}$

Can the intermediate-scale string give a quantitative understanding of this scale?



# Neutrino Masses



# Neutrino Masses

How to describe a Kaluza-Klein or string state in 4d supergravity?

$$m_{heavy} = \frac{m_s}{\mathcal{V}^\alpha} = \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{1/2+\alpha}},$$

● **WRONG:**

$$K = \Phi\bar{\Phi}$$

$$W = M_{heavy}\Phi^2 = \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{1/2+\alpha}}\Phi^2 = \frac{M_P}{(T + \bar{T})^{\frac{3+6\alpha}{4}}}\Phi^2.$$

● **RIGHT:**

$$K = \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{1/2-\alpha}}\Phi\bar{\Phi}$$

$$W = M_P\Phi^2$$

# Neutrino Masses

The Lagrangian is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= K_{\Phi\bar{\Phi}}\partial_{\mu}\Phi\partial^{\mu}\bar{\Phi} + e^K \left( K^{i\bar{j}} D_i W D_{\bar{j}} W - 3|W|^2 \right) \\ &= K_{\Phi\bar{\Phi}}\partial_{\mu}\Phi\partial^{\mu}\bar{\Phi} + \frac{M_P^2}{\mathcal{V}^2} K^{\Phi\bar{\Phi}}\Phi\bar{\Phi}.\end{aligned}$$

• For KK states,

$$K = \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{1/3}}\Phi\bar{\Phi} \text{ gives } m_{KK} = \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}}.$$

• For stringy states,

$$K = \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{1/2}}\Phi\bar{\Phi} \text{ gives } m_s = \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{1/2}}.$$

# Neutrino Masses

Consider a KK state as a right-handed neutrino

$$W = M_P \Phi^2 + Y_{\Phi HL} \Phi H L$$
$$K = \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{1/3}} \Phi \bar{\Phi} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} H \bar{H} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} L \bar{L}$$

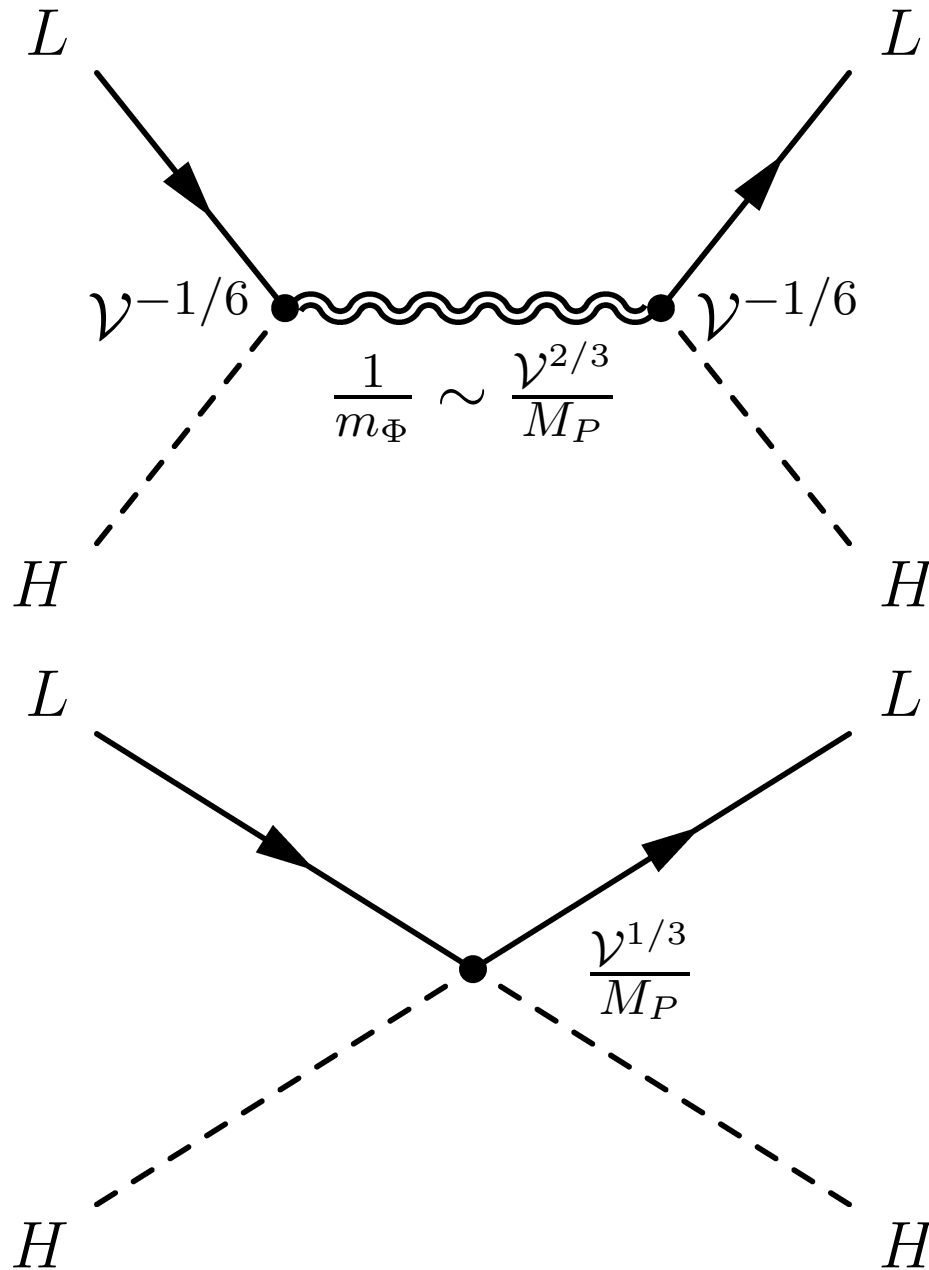
( $K_{H\bar{H}}, K_{L\bar{L}} \sim \mathcal{V}^{-2/3}$  follows from locality)

The physical Yukawa is

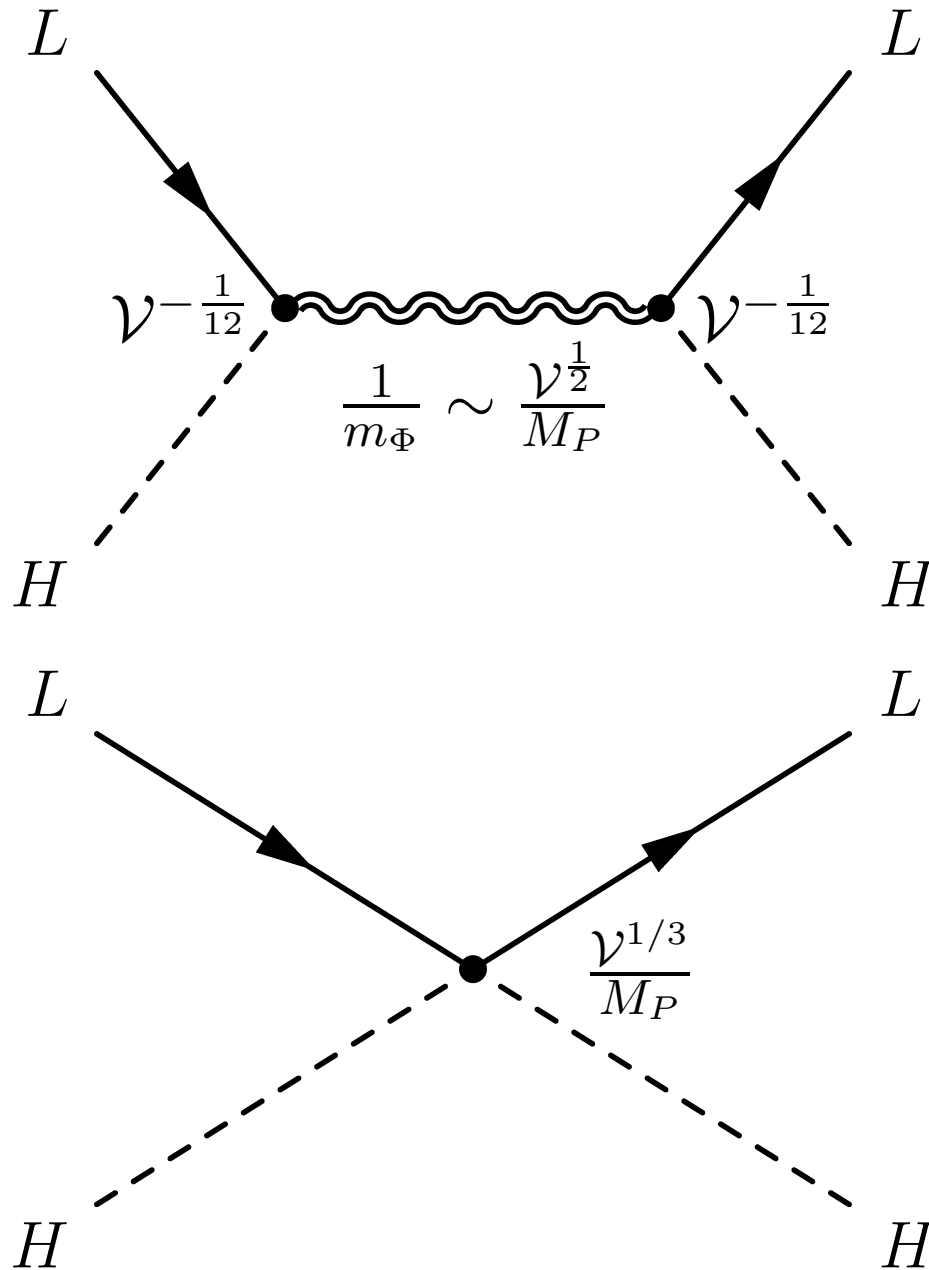
$$\hat{Y}_{\Phi HL} = e^{\hat{K}/2} \frac{Y_{\Phi HL}}{\sqrt{K_{\Phi\bar{\Phi}} K_{L\bar{L}} K_{H\bar{H}}}}$$
$$= \mathcal{V}^{-\frac{1}{6}} Y_{\Phi HL}.$$

For string states,  $\hat{Y}_{\Phi HL} = \mathcal{V}^{-\frac{1}{12}} Y_{\Phi HL}$ .

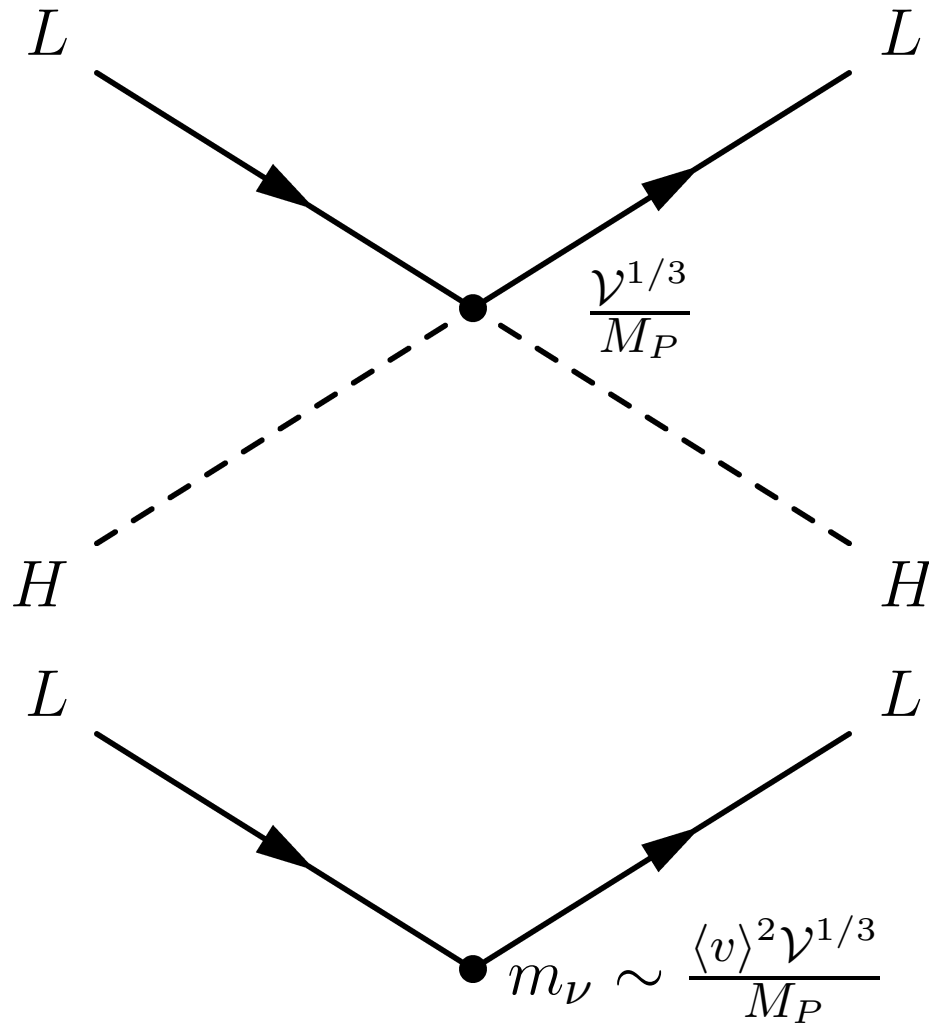
# Neutrino Masses



# Neutrino Masses



# Neutrino Masses



# Neutrino Masses

Integrating out string / KK states generates a dimension-five operator suppressed by

$$\text{(string)} \quad \mathcal{V}^{-1/12} \times \frac{\mathcal{V}^{1/2}}{M_P} \times \mathcal{V}^{-1/12} \sim \frac{\mathcal{V}^{1/3}}{M_P}$$

$$\text{(KK)} \quad \mathcal{V}^{-1/6} \times \frac{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}}{M_P} \times \mathcal{V}^{-1/6} \sim \frac{\mathcal{V}^{1/3}}{M_P}$$

- Integrating out heavy states of mass  $M$  does **not** produce operators suppressed by  $M^{-1}$ .
- The dimension-five suppression scale is **independent** of the masses of the heavy states integrated out.



# Neutrino Masses

Fully,

$$K_{H\bar{H}} \sim K_{L\bar{L}} \sim \frac{\tau_s^{1/3}}{\nu^{2/3}}.$$

As  $\tau_s \sim \alpha_{SM}^{-1}(m_s)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} m_\nu &\simeq \frac{\langle v \rangle^2 \sin^2 \beta (\alpha_{SM}(m_s))^{2/3}}{2M_P^{2/3} m_{3/2}^{1/3}} \\ &\simeq 0.09 \text{eV} \left( \sin^2 \beta \times \left( \frac{20 \text{TeV}}{m_{3/2}} \right)^{1/3} \right) \end{aligned}$$

This works remarkably well!

# A new scale....

- The volume modulus  $\chi$  always has a mass

$$m_\chi \sim \frac{m_{3/2}^{3/2}}{M_P^{1/2}} \sim 1\text{MeV}.$$

This is a *totally robust* prediction of these models.

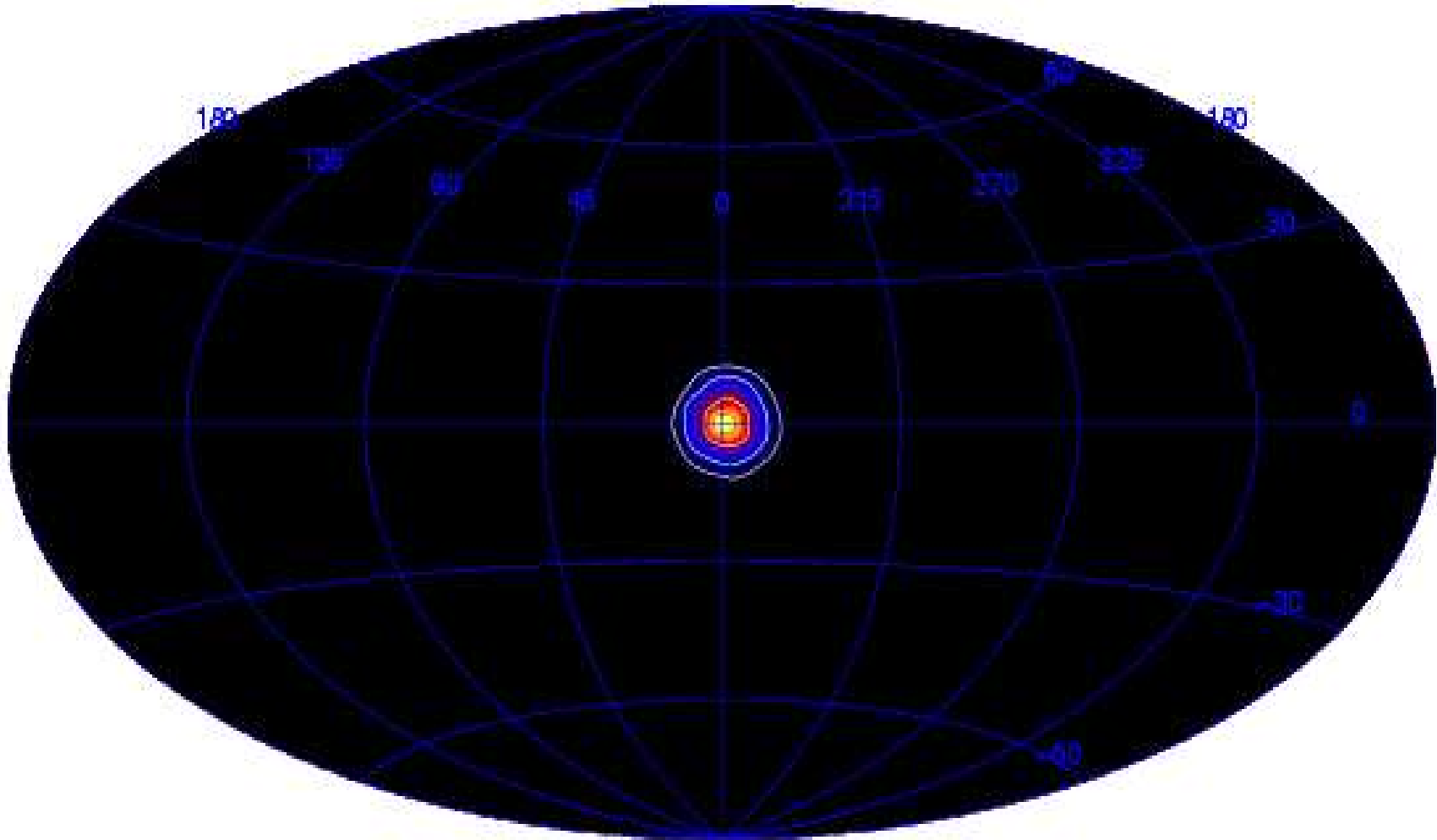
- This particle can decay via  $\chi \rightarrow 2\gamma$  and  $\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-$ .

One can show

$$\tau_\chi \sim 10^{27} s,$$
$$Br(\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-) \sim \frac{\ln(M_P/m_{3/2})^2}{20} Br(\chi \rightarrow 2\gamma).$$

# A new scale...

The sky at 511keV (as was...)

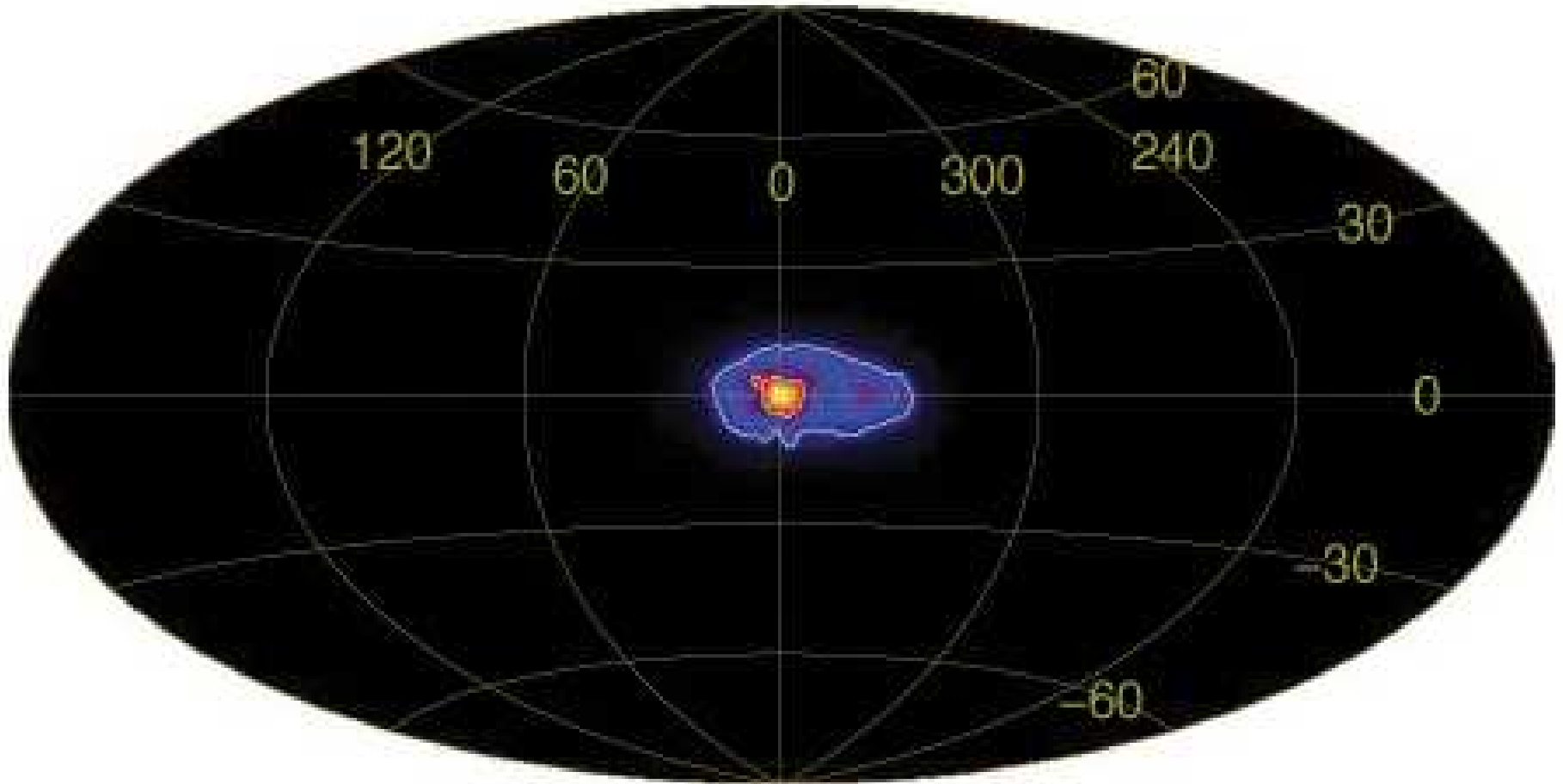


# A new scale...

- There is a large flux of positrons from the galactic centre.
- The astrophysical origin of these positrons was not well known, hinting at new physics around 1 MeV.
- If present, this could arise from light dark matter annihilating or decaying in the galactic centre.
- However....

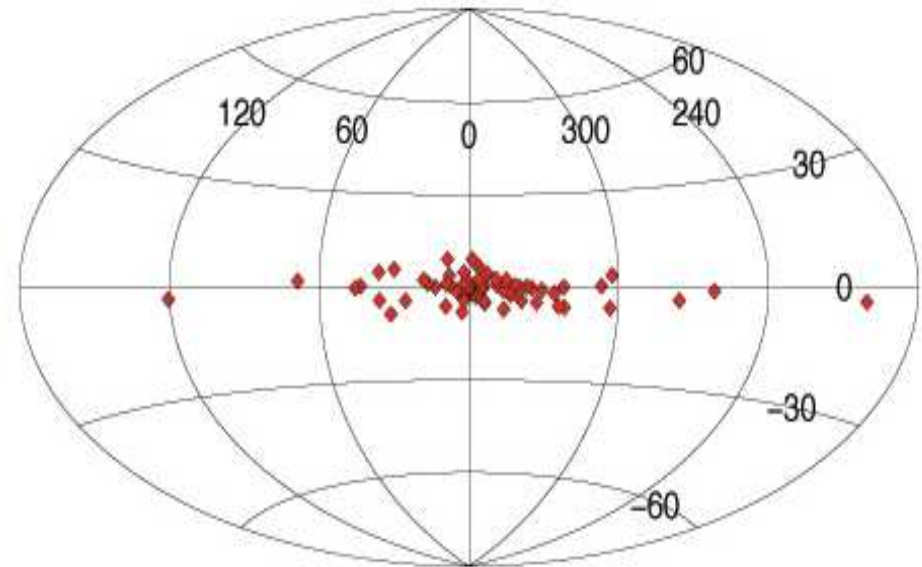
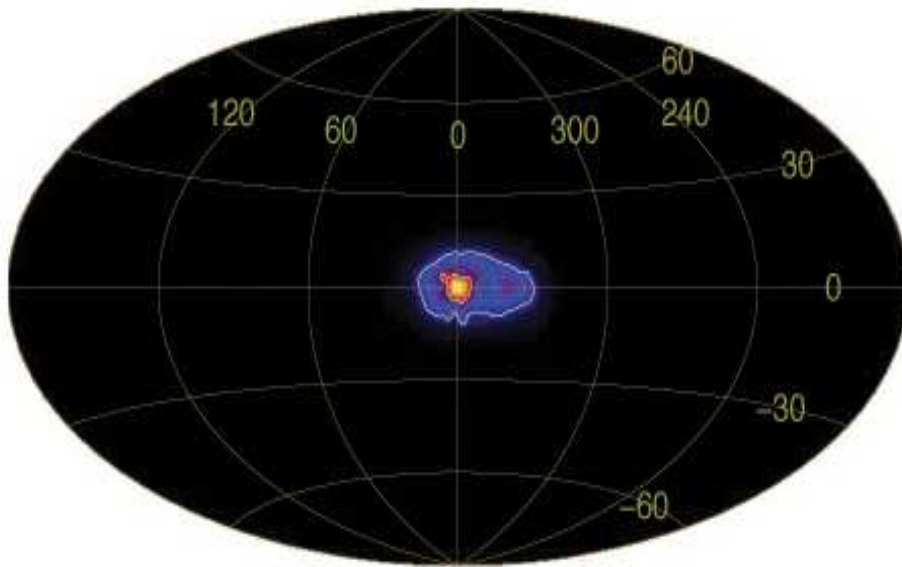
# A new scale...

The sky at 511keV (now...)



# A new scale...

- The positron distribution is now asymmetric and does not look like a dark matter distribution.
- It also correlates with the distribution of low-mass hard X-ray binaries:



# A new scale....

- The decays of the volume modulus would contribute both to the cosmic gamma-ray background and to the 511keV flux.
- Non-observation constrains the abundance of the volume modulus to

$$\Omega_\chi \lesssim 10^{-4}.$$

- At best, can contribute a small fraction of dark matter.

# Large Volumes are Power-ful

In large-volume models, an exponentially large volume naturally appears ( $\mathcal{V} \sim e^{\frac{c}{g_s}}$ ). This generates scales

- Susy-breaking:  $m_{soft} \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}} \sim 10^3 \text{ GeV}$
- Axions:  $f_a \sim \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\mathcal{V}}} \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$
- Neutrinos/dim-5 operators:  $\Lambda \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{1/3}} \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$
- A new scale at  $m \sim \frac{M_P}{\mathcal{V}^{3/2}} \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$ .
- All four scales (plus flavour universality) are yoked in an attractive fashion.
- The origin of all four scales is the exponentially large volume.